

Hatch dreams of stomping out cancer

By Laura Mancuso
IVN Editor

“Stomping Out Cancer One Step at a Time” is the goal of Cave Junction resident Susan Hatch.

On Saturday, July 14, Hatch went to North Valley High School in Merlin to participate in Josephine County’s American Cancer Society Relay For Life. While she was there, Hatch presented the event coordinator Stephanie Baker with a \$900 check in donations from the Illinois Valley community and then walked the “Survivor Lap” around the track.

Baker was very excited to accept the check donated from Cave Junction and said, “I’m actually from Cave Junction; I’m an I.V. High Alumni!”

Hatch first started participating in Relay For Life in 2007 after her husband, David, died from prostate cancer in 2006. “I made a promise to myself that I was going to stay involved and

make a difference,” said Hatch.

“Our team was called ‘The Proactives’ and we won the Rookie Team of the Year Award. After that I joined the committee (Relay For Life) for the next three years.”

Personally, Hatch is no stranger to cancer. She said that she has had two bouts with cancer and July 15 celebrated her “second birthday.” Hatch explained that it has now been two years since her last radiation treatment due to breast cancer.

Her second birthday was celebrated at Sportsman Tavern where a Stomping Out Cancer awards ceremony was held. Hatch distributed certificates and trophies to the businesses that collected donations. The following businesses received awards: PAPA’s Dispensary, PAPA’s Sporting Goods and More, R Hog Farm, Sportsman Tavern and *Illinois Valley News*. The participating businesses sold squares for a minimum of \$1 a piece and then the person donating

put their name on the square which was displayed in the business. Bagel Junction donated food for the awards ceremony and local artist Mandalynn Sage created the drawings on the squares.

The next step in Hatch’s promise to David is to create a 2019 Stomping Out Cancer event just for the Illinois Valley. Her vision is to hold a fundraising event at the I.V. High School track and all the proceeds would stay right here in the I.V. to help community members cope with the high cost of cancer treatment.

If you feel you’ve missed your chance to donate to the 2018 Relay For Life, it is not too late to help the cause. I.V. News is still accepting donations that will be kept for the 2019 Stomping Out Cancer in the I.V. fundraiser. You can still buy a \$1 square and have your name displayed in the window. For more information you can visit Laura Mancuso at *Illinois Valley News*, 221 S. Redwood Hwy. or call 541-592-2541.



(Photo by Laura Mancuso, *Illinois Valley News*)

Susan Hatch (left) is handing over a \$900 check to the Relay For Life event coordinator Stephanie Baker at North Valley High School Saturday, July 14.

Grab your fiddle and get ready to put on your dancing shoes

Sharissa Smith
IVN Contributing Writer

The Siskiyou Folk & Bluegrass Festival is going to be livening up Lake Selmac July 28!

Stop by between the hours of 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. around the Boy Scout area. Rotary Club’s Jannie Crocker elaborated on the event: “We will have seven bands including Rogue Trio, The Brothers Reed, Umqua Valley Bluegrass Band, Mark Kroos and AcostaNoyr.

“If you’d like to experience this exciting Bluegrass Festival firsthand come join us for an admission fee of \$20 and that includes a \$5 parking fee that is charged by the county.” You don’t have to worry about purchasing tickets ahead of time, “You just get there and pay,”

Crocker added.

Crocker also mentioned that to compliment the music there will be food available for purchase. “We will be selling hot dogs and hamburgers. The food is donated by Wild River Pizza. We will have beer and wine too.”

This fun event is being hosted by The Rotary Club of Illinois Valley with Ted Crocker as the coordinator.

However, all this fun isn’t without an excellent purpose, “The money that we are raising for this is going to go toward scholarships for a senior next year at Illinois Valley High School. Our club has been in existence for 11 years now and that was one of the very first goals we made. We wanted to be

able to establish some kind of a scholarship. So when we were able to get ahold of this bluegrass festival and do it ourselves that enabled us finally to meet our goal of being able to offer a scholarship. We just hadn’t made enough money to provide scholarships along with the other projects we do. It’s something

the club has been wanting to do for 11 years now.”

If you have any questions about this upcoming event you can contact the coordinator Ted Crocker or Jannie Crocker at 541-592-3667 or 541-415-0548.

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